

**Friday August 21, 2020**  
**7pm MEETING is VIRTUAL !**

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*The 2020 COVID-19 pandemic required the club to cancel all in-person meetings for the duration of the emergency. In response, the Club began meeting electronically, using the **zoom.us** system. Invitations to each publicly available meeting will be sent out via our groups.io email reflector, making it even more important that you join this email group. See page 11 for details on Zoom.*



## **August Program Via Zoom Teleconference**

# **Practical Full-Band Antennas for the 80 Meter Band** **By Jim Blodgett, KI6JB**



The 80 meter band has the largest percentage bandwidth (13.3%) of any of the common amateur radio bands. Because of this, simple antennas such as dipoles, inverted-Vs and monopoles will have insufficient matched bandwidth to cover the entire band. This talk will discuss a few simple techniques used to make it easy for the average ham to implement a highly effective 80 meter

antenna broadband matching system without the use of an antenna tuner.

KI6JB was first licensed in 1979, the same day he obtained his first class commercial radiotelephone license. Jim has been employed by Bell Laboratories and their related spin-offs for most of the last 40 years. He has been granted 19 patents (with one pending) in the fields of communications, circuit design, system design and antenna design. Jim is also a licensed air transport pilot.

*This month's meeting will be held virtually only, via our Zoom videoconferencing system. The meeting access ID and password will be distributed via groups.io email announcement. Our meeting will also be shown on the club digital amateur television repeater, which is live streamed at: <http://w6cxatv.mdarc.org/>*



**Tom Borbely, KK6IKR**  
**Jeffrey Brown, KN6KEW**  
**James Klinkner, KN6JYM**  
**Christine McDermott, KN6KFB**  
**Tom Schiller, N6BT**  
**Alan Zee, KN6KEV**

If you hear these new members on the air,  
please welcome them to our club.

— *Roger Hooten, W6UZ*



**When you purchase at Amazon dot com  
smile, a portion of your purchase is  
donated to our club.**

**Go to:**  
**<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7072059>**

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE CLUB  
E-MAIL GROUP AND SHARE INFORMATION  
WITH THE MEMBERSHIP AT:

**<https://groups.io/g/MDARC>**

*(the Yahoo group was abolished)*

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**Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club W6CX**  
**P.O. Box 23222 Pleasant Hill, CA 94523**  
**(925) 288-1730**

*The Carrier* is a monthly publication of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC). It is the policy of the editor to publish all material submitted by the membership provided such material is in good taste, relevant to amateur radio and of interest to MDARC members, and provided space is available.

**President** - Larry Bradley, KK6QPE  
**Vice President** - Ed Morales, KJ6KYT  
**Secretary** - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB  
**Treasurer** - Cathi Walton, K2CJW  
**Emergency Coordinator** - Ron Bunch, W4FEK

**Directors At Large**  
Trevor Hall, WA6JAU      Dave Piersall, N6ORB  
Roger Hooten, W6UZ      Mike Warren, W6MEW

**Membership Chair** - Roger Hooten, W6UZ  
[mdarcmembership@mdarc.org](mailto:mdarcmembership@mdarc.org)

**PACIFICON 2020**  
Chair: Julie Mah, WJ8MAE  
Registration: Debbie Deeble, KN6DOM  
Treasurer: Jim Siemons, W6LK  
Secretary: Cathi Walton, K2CJW

## **COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND COORDINATORS**

Annual Auction - Jim Siemons, W6LK  
Communications Trailer - Mike Warren, W6MEW  
Communications Van MDARC-1 - Jim Tittle, K6SOE  
Digital Media - Mike Patterson, N6JGA  
Education & Training - John Primus, AF6RJ  
Field Day - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB  
Good & Welfare - Diana Sage, KA6TZU  
Holiday Dinner - Misa Siemons, KJ6BUE  
License Testing - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB  
Outreach - Dick Wade, WM6G  
Public Service - Klaus Berkner, K6KHB  
Radio Equipment Lending - Brent Morgan, AF6HQ  
Refreshments - Elizabeth Styles, KG6HLV  
Repeater Trustee W6LGW - Dick Brown, KT6X  
Repeater Trustee W6CX - Jim Tittle, K6SOE  
Scholarship - Janice Fujii, KG6VTD  
Technical Committee - Jim Siemons, W6LK

***The Carrier*** Newsletter  
Editor - Matthew G. Vurek, N4DLA  
[n4dla\\_cs245@yahoo.com](mailto:n4dla_cs245@yahoo.com)  
Proofreader - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB  
Printing & Distribution - Roger Hooten, W6UZ

***Amateur Television Help and Information:***  
Fred Coe, WB6ASU      [wb6asu@icloud.com](mailto:wb6asu@icloud.com)



# President's Message

August 2020

MDARC Family



**When it's hot, it's hot!** When the outdoor temperature sits in the 90s, my ham shack (shown above) approaches 100s and I think today it hit an all-time high of 110 degrees. I don't know what it is with hams and our ham shacks, but if you are like me, I am always doing something to "improve" it. Although not an official creed or motto of the US Postal Service, the words *"Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds"* sometimes seem to apply to us as well.

**Public Service:** The COVID 19 pandemic has certainly put the kibosh in our participation in public service events and it is understandable that many of our served clients have had to cancel their events or conduct them virtually. Either way, that has left us out of the "support loop." One of the consequences of this lack of public service events is not being readily able to keep our "on the air" skills sharp. You may wish to consider participating in the North Bay 2-Meter Critical Mass held at 1030 hours on the third Sunday of each month. Here is a link if you want more information:  
<http://2metercriticalmass.com/northbay-2mcm/>



**License courses:** The Club has stepped out and recently started a nine-week General Class Licensing Course using Zoom teleconferencing. This is a new venture for the club and we have high hopes that it will be successful. There are currently 30+ students taking this course. You know what is really tremendous? Every one of the Discussion Leaders scheduled for our cancelled March course agreed to also do this on Zoom. So, not only is the Club stepping out, but so are our Discussion Leaders. When you "see" them, be sure to give thank them and give a word of encouragement.

Discussion Leaders: Brian Lotter, KM6NGS; David Piersall, N6ORB; Dick Wade, WM6G; Jim Blodgett, KI6JB; Larry Loomer, KI6LNB; Lauren Styles, WA6CIE; Michelle Paquette, AA6MP

Staff: Michael Warren, W6MEW; Rich Lueck, K6REL

Elmers: Bruce Alcorn, KK6SQM; Cal Vasquez, K6VT; John Kearney, KM6ZIT; Pete Harris, KE6ZIW; Trevor Hall, WA6JAU, plus Discussion Leaders

**August 21<sup>st</sup> General Membership Meeting:** Please mark your calendar and plan to join us for our virtual gathering to participate in a discussion on Digital Modes. This will be your chance to "get the scoop" from those who are active digital mode enthusiasts as they share their joys and lessons-learned with these modes.



This will then be followed by a short business meeting and we will make way for our speaker, **Jim Blodgett, KI6JB** who will speaking on **Practical Full-Band Antennas for 80 Meters**. Put on your thinking hats for this one as Jim shares some great information on this 80-meter antenna topic.

\*\*\*\*\*

Want to come to the “party”.....as in General Membership Meeting? You will need an email invitation from Zoom and these are only available through our Groups.io email reflector. If you are not on this reflector then check out this link for the simple steps to make it happen.

<http://www.mdarc.org/about-us/communicating-with-you#groups>

Then once you are on that reflector, then expect to see an invitation from me for a Zoom meeting. Zoom is easy to use and has a rather easy learning curve and the MDARC.org website has useful information for getting you started.

<http://www.mdarc.org/about-us/zoom-guidelines>

These hams are there to represent you, so do not hesitate to voice your comments and concerns to them and they will convey them to the rest of the Board. Making the club better and responding to your needs is among of their responsibilities.

Dave Piersall, N6ORB; Mike Warren, W6MEW; Roger Hooten, W6UZ; and Trevor Hall, WA6JAU.

New to Zoom meetings? Not to worry because we have all the information you need in our [www.MDARC.org](http://www.MDARC.org) website, so please take a look at the “Communicating With You” and “Zoom Guidelines” articles by clicking on the link to the left of this COVID-19 Note. You are also encouraged to join the email reflector on Groups.io because that is currently the only way of sending you an invitation to join a Zoom meeting. There is a link in “Communicating With You” that explains how easy it is to join, but if you need help, please contact Mike N6JGA who would be happy to assist you.

Prefer not to use the video option in the Zoom meeting? That is fine and you can join us by just using the audio, but we would love to see your face.

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### Guglielmo Marconi



Want to learn more about Guglielmo Marconi?

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guglielmo\\_Marconi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guglielmo_Marconi)

Interested in a mystery? You might enjoy reading Thunderstruck by Erik Larson.

<https://www.amazon.com/Thunderstruck-Erik-Larson/dp/1400080673>

In *Thunderstruck*, Erik Larson tells the interwoven stories of two men—Hawley Crippen, a very unlikely murderer, and Guglielmo Marconi, the obsessive creator of a seemingly supernatural means of communication—whose lives intersect during one of the greatest criminal chases of all time.

Set in Edwardian London and on the stormy coasts of Cornwall, Cape Cod, and Nova Scotia, *Thunderstruck* evokes the dynamism of those years when great shipping companies competed to build the biggest, fastest ocean liners; scientific advances dazzled the public with visions of a world transformed; and the rich outdid one another with ostentatious displays of wealth. Against this background, Marconi races against incredible odds and relentless skepticism to perfect his invention: the wireless, a prime catalyst for the emergence of the world we know today. Meanwhile, Crippen, “the kindest of men,” nearly commits the perfect murder.

***“The greatest motivational act one person can do for another is to listen.” Roy E. Moody***

*Stay safe,*

*73*

*Larry Bradley KK6QPE*

*08/10/20*



## **AMATEUR RADIO EQUIPMENT SALE SATURDAY AUGUST 22, 2020 9AM to 3PM K6EWN 5224 DIANE LANE LIVERMORE**

Jon Schwartz, K6EWN, is moving and will have for sale antennas, tower hardware and sections, coaxial cable, hardline/helias and related items, VHF and UHF cavities, duplexers, various handi-talkies, computers (Mac and PC), connectors, power supplies, stackable portable mast, microwave equipment, RF lab equipment, WiFi equipment and dishes.

Coffee and donuts will be served.

*Don't forget your face mask!*

# 2020 PACIFICON CANCELTION NOTICE

After a long and careful consideration of many circumstances concerning holding a virtual Pacificon for 2020, the Committee has determined that we would not be able to even approach our standard of quality in a virtual setting. So Pacificon is canceled for 2020, both in-person and virtual.

Our investigations included consultations with the ARRL, our potential vendors and speakers, consideration of other virtual conventions occurring in the same time frame, the cost of the services needed to provide a quality experience and other factors.

Although Pacificon 2020 will not be held, we believe that the pandemic restrictions will be behind us well before **Pacificon 2021** arrives, so we'll be working to make it as special as we can. Mark your calendars now for **Friday through Sunday, October 15-17, 2021** at the San Ramon Marriott Hotel. We'll see you there in person and anxious for all the latest information and gadgets.

Thank you for your loyalty to Pacificon. **See you in 2021 !**





# LICENSE TESTING REPORT

**The testing team: Jim, WW1ACE, John, KK6VCW, and Mike, N6JGA, are ready for action, as Larry, KI6LNB (standing), reviews the paperwork. (Marilyn Warren photo)**



**By Larry Loomer, KI6LNB**

On July 11, 2020, five ARRL Volunteer Examiners (VEs) got together in Concord and held another drive-in license testing session.

The session was by reservation only, to control the number of candidates that were present in the parking lot at any one time. Five scheduled candidates drove their cars to positions in front of three VEs, where they filled out their paperwork in their cars. The lead VE checked

each set of paperwork and directed the candidate to the chair in front of their car, and gave the candidate their test booklet. The candidate sat in the chair, in full view of the three VEs, and took the test on their clipboards.

Once the test was completed, the candidate passed their paperwork to an "in-box" on the VE table and put the test booklet into a "trash" box for disposal. The candidate then backed their car to a holding area, to wait for the test results. Another car is directed into the empty testing space, and the testing cycle is continued.

A total of 30 candidates were tested that morning, beginning at 8:30 AM and going on until past noon. Since testing was not being offered by other VE groups in the area, some candidates came from 50 miles or more away to be tested. We were glad to provide this much needed service to new hams and to upgrading hams alike. This service will continue to be offered, as long as there is a need for our service.

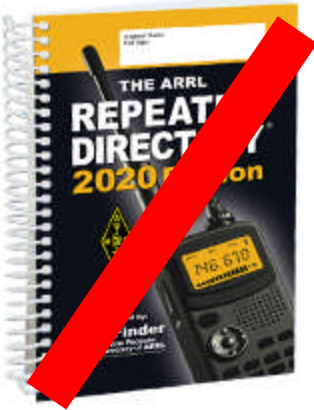


**The candidates seated in front of their cars and taking their tests (Marilyn Warren photo)**



# Book Review - *The ARRL Repeater Directory 2020 Edition*

By Matthew G. Vurek, N4DLA



This book is wrought with many errors/omissions and should not be acquired (maybe that's why no author or editor name appears in it!). The ARRL did a disservice to its members and the amateur radio community by publishing it.

I bought my first *ARRL Repeater Directory* (RD) shortly after I was licensed (and joined ARRL) as WB3GYL at age 15 in 1977. I bought my next RD in 1984 and have purchased one every leap year since. Thus, I have over 40 years of familiarity with this publication and its use. I still have all my copies.

Before on-line databases were available, the RD was an excellent resource with information on repeaters in North America as well as overseas. ARRL staff compiled the book and, from at least 1984 until his 2016 retirement, featured a foreword from ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ (no foreword appears in the 2020 RD). A few errors would appear from time to time but that is not uncommon in such a large publication.

Trouble began in 2017 (the year after I purchased my previous RD) when ARRL outsourced production to "RFinder.net." This company, which proclaims itself as the "Worldwide Repeater Directory," offers a paid subscription service for its on-line database of "55,000+ repeaters in 175+ countries." Unfortunately, analysis reveals RFinder.net has problems maintaining the accuracy of their database. On July 17, 2020, several messages on our club's electronic mail list claimed that the RFinder system had incorrect information for our club's 2 meter FM repeater. Yet, when the correct information was repeatedly submitted to RFinder, messages claimed the errors remained.

These errors also appear on the pages of the 2020 RD. Our club's FM repeaters in the 222 MHz and 441 MHz band, as well as our 144 MHz DSTAR repeater are listed correctly under the "Concord, Mt Diablo" heading on page 67. Problem is, our club's signature 147.060 FM repeater appears on page 102 listed under just "Walnut Creek"...as a DMR repeater (club member Tim, K6BIV, states its equipment is DMR-capable but operates on FM). It is unknown why there is a city discrepancy, especially since these repeaters are all at the same site. Oh, and our club's digital amateur television repeater? It is not even listed!

The errors are not just limited to our club's repeaters. The 2020 RD omits the three open (and coordinated) UHF FM repeaters operated by the Lamorinda Area Radio Interest Group (K6ORI), which have been on the air for several years. A 927 MHz repeater on Mount Diablo is listed that doesn't even appear in the list of coordinated (or uncoordinated) repeaters on the Northern Amateur Relay Council of California repeater coordinator web page ([www.narcc.org](http://www.narcc.org)); ditto with 927 MHz repeaters in Moraga and Mountain View. On page 182 in the listings for my native state of Maryland, a UHF DMR repeater is listed in the city of Nanos with the callsign S55DKP. However, there is no such city in "The Land of the Plowman and Fisherman"...but Nanos is an area of Slovenia where this callsign prefix is assigned. Looking for repeaters in the District of Columbia? There are none...unless you turn past the Washington state page to reach "Washington, DC." The previous editions I own always listed the repeaters in our Nation's Capital under "District of Columbia." Other city listings show repeaters under local landmarks or buildings but other repeaters in the same city are listed under just the city name, which may confuse amateur radio operators who visit from outside those areas.

In summary, it is recommended that those needing accurate repeater information for their neighborhood or elsewhere should consult the on-line databases provided by the local repeater coordinating organizations (they are listed in the front of the RD). Better yet, contact an amateur radio club in the area you are visiting or transiting and obtain this information. Otherwise, if you utilize the *2020 ARRL Repeater Directory*, you and your radio transceiver may become lost amongst the errors in a book that can't tell Sharpsburg from Slovenia.



# MDARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Virtually via ZOOM July 6, 2020

Attendees: Larry Bradley KK6QPE, Ed Morales KJ6KYT, Larry Loomer KI6LNB, Cathi Walton K2CJW, Ron Bunch W4FEK, David Piersall N6ORB, Mike Warren W6MEW, Marilyn Warren W6MEW-YL, Mike Patterson N6JGA, Trevor Hall WA6JAU, Roger Hooten W6UZ, Jim Siemons W6LK, Dick Wade WM6G, Terry Buxton KK6KGX, Bob White K6RWW, Rich Lueck K6REL, Lauren Styles WA6CIE.

7:00 PM: The virtual meeting was called to order by President Larry Bradley. Minutes of the last board meeting were approved. The President sent out the agenda prior to the meeting. The agenda was reviewed and approved.

President: It looks like we will be doing Zoom meetings for a while.

Vice President: The speaker for July will be Joel Wilhite, KD6W. Andy Record will be the August speaker. Charles Henry will be the September speaker. Ed Fong will speak in October.

Secretary: No report.

Treasurer: Cathi Walton K2CJW, reported that we received no Amazon Smile donation because of the change in the banking account. In August we will be getting \$200+ from Amazon Smile. The changes to the figures on the budget sheet were discussed. The P.O. Box rental increased to \$150. There was a debit of \$296 for the MDARC 1 Van registration. Lauren will ask his church for a letter of credit for our non-use of the church. Lauren should get a copy of our contract with the church. The South Peak rental will go to \$904 at the end of the month.

Emergency Coordinator: There is not much to report. There was a report of someone messing around on the repeater last week. There was a discussion of interference with the repeater. A guy is interfering with repeaters around the Bay Area.

Directors: No reports.

Education: GOTA-HT classes are scheduled for July 17 and 18. The General Class will start on August 6 and go to September 29. Testing will occur on October 6. GOTA-HF will occur on October 13.

Pacificon: The hotel contract is officially cancelled. The committee will meet on Wednesday, July 8, for a discussion of a virtual Pacificon.

Outreach: There have been communications about testing and class schedules.

Technical: The committee is trying to work on identifying the guy that is defeating the Weather Net. If something is down, they will go and fix it. Trevor, WA6JAU, is not available during the week.

Vehicle: The board will accept the Committee Chair's vehicle checklist as presented, with the addition of the comments from Mike Warren, W6MEW.

Field Day: Mike, W6MEW, set up a line item on Groups.io for Field Day reporting.

License Testing: No MDARC license testing to report on.

Public Service: No report.

Scholarship: See Unfinished Business.

Lending Library: See Unfinished Business.

*(continued on following page)*

## Unfinished Business:

1. Motion and Pass: to accept the Pacificon Committee vote to postpone the in-person 2020 Pacificon.
2. Membership Survey: Surveys were sent to 66 former members. There were 16 replies. This 22% return rate is a good return. Some of the responses warrant further discussion.
3. Scholarship Committee: The scholarship activity will be tabled until the board has a better picture of our financial situation.
4. Communication Van: Mike Warren, W6MEW, discussed the van maintenance check list with the chairman, Jim Tittle, K6SOE. There is a backup copy of the Van Maintenance List on the Google Drive.
5. Radio Lending Library: A policy statement from Brent, AF6HQ, was presented and will be accepted as is, with the addition of "Amateur" in the last line of the liability statement. After beginning the lending, the document can be revised.
6. Breakout Sessions: Dave, N6ORB, did a great job at the last membership meeting. Ed, KJ6KYT, wants to do an Elmer Breakout Session. We need a Meet and Greet Session before the meeting. In July, we will have an open session with Elmers. All levels of questions will be accepted. Bring your questions – we will have the answers. The official start of the question and answer session will be 6:00 PM, and it will go until 6:45 PM.
7. The review of the 2021 membership proposals will be deferred until the next board meeting.

## New Business:

1. Pacificon: The financial impact of the postponement of Pacificon was discussed. The treasurer can anticipate future 2020 expenses but needs the Committee Chairs to provide her their expected expenses for the remaining of this fiscal year. We already have a donation from the Pacificon Fund for this year that was already included as part of the 2020 budget. Therefore, the club's financial situation is not heavily impacted. We also will have fewer expenses for this year due to the Covid-19 situation. Next year, there will be no Pacificon Fund donation and we will need to reduce expenses for 2021. We should be discussing this subject amongst ourselves as we have to decide what is important to the club. We have money in our accounts to cover an operating deficit.

2. Jim Brunk: His memo about membership will be deferred until the next meeting.

Adjournment: 9:20 PM      Respectfully submitted, Larry Loomer, KI6LNB, MDARC Secretary

## **MDARC GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING Virtual Meeting held on Zoom July 17, 2020**

7:00 PM: The meeting was called to order by the President. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the members to a flag supplied on Zoom by Mike, W6MEW. The President is enjoying the virtual meetings. There were no revisions to the meeting minutes from the previous meeting. There were 36 attendees at the meeting.

The Vice President reported that the August meeting speaker cancelled. Jim Blodgett KI6JB, will be speaking on 80-meter antennas instead. The Secretary had no report.

The Treasurer's June report showed that there is \$59K+ total in the checking account and the savings account, \$57K+ in the Self-insurance Fund and \$15K+ in the Pacificon Fund. The total is \$131K+.

The Emergency Coordinator reported that there have been interference reports on repeaters not in this area. Other reports of interference have come from the members. The Directors had no reports.

The Tech. Committee reported that there was no meeting on July 4. All systems are go. The Media Committee had no report.

Pacificon: The Pacificon Convention has been cancelled with the hotel with no penalty. A virtual Pacificon is being looked at by the committee.

Membership: We have 310 paid members, including 31 new members, compared to 333 paid members with 46 new members last year.

7:17 PM: The meeting was adjourned. Respectfully submitted, Larry Loomer, KI6LNB, MDARC Secretary



# Zoom Video Meeting Instructions

Note: Zoom videoconference meeting access IDs and passwords will be distributed only through our [MDARC Groups.io email reflector](#). They will not be posted on the club web site or other publicly available forums, in order to maintain needed security precautions.

## General Information:

All meeting hosts and attendees are expected to review these guidelines prior to any Club meeting and abide by them throughout the meeting.

Zoom has two kinds of events: Meetings and Webinars.

## Meetings:

In Meetings, everyone can see and hear everyone else (unless an individual has been muted or stopped their video). Everyone can also share their screen (unless blocked by the host), for demonstrating something or showing a PowerPoint, as examples.

## Webinars:

In Webinars, only the presenter(s) can be seen and heard. Questions and comments are normally handled by either submitting the question by typing it into the Question pop-up box or the Chat area; or using the “Raised Hand” icon, then asking your question when the host unmutes and acknowledges you.

Webinars are an extra-cost feature in Zoom, so all Club events will be Meetings. This means every participant must be diligent about abiding by these guidelines, to minimize disruptions.

## Per our Bylaws, Article III, Section 5; Electronic Meetings; Item 6:

(<http://www.mdarc.org/about-us/official-documents/bylaws>)

“Electronic Meetings may be conducted at the discretion of the meeting’s chair. Nothing in this Section shall be construed as to require that any meeting of the Membership, Board of Directors or any committee be provided with the facilities for an Electronic Meeting, or that any attendee has the right to attend any meeting by electronic means.”

If you have any questions about using Zoom, please let us know at [info@mdarc.org](mailto:info@mdarc.org) or by calling 925-288-1730.

**Go to [https://zoom.us/download#client\\_4meeting](https://zoom.us/download#client_4meeting)**

For computers (Windows or Apple), download the “Zoom Client for Meetings”.

For phones and tablets, scroll down and download the appropriate “Zoom Mobile App”

\* We recommend using a computer, rather than a phone or tablet, when possible. The screen is larger, the audio is usually better and the controls are easier to use.

Once the app is installed, you can join a test meeting to test your system and your audio.

See <http://www.mdarc.org/about-us/zoom-guidelines/zoom-how-to>

*(continued on following page)*

# Zoom Video Meeting Instructions (continued)

- \* Be sure to review the “Attendee Controls in a Meeting” on Zoom’s web site. See our [Zoom How-To page](#) for the link.
- \* Please attend via a video connection whenever possible. Although calling into a meeting by audio-only is allowed, it’s strongly discouraged. Attendees are at a substantial disadvantage when they can’t see the material being displayed on-screen. If you don’t have or don’t want to use a camera yourself, it’s possible to attend a video meeting while keeping your video image turned off. That way, you can at least see the material. This may somewhat restrict your ability to participate, however.
- \* If you aren’t fully familiar with using Zoom, please see our [Zoom How-To page](#).
- \* Once in a meeting, check your name as it appears at the bottom of your image, or in the Participants List. Change it to one appropriate for the meeting, if needed. We suggest adding your call sign, for example. You can also make your name change permanent in your online profile. See our [Zoom How-To page](#) for instructions.

## Video:

- \* Test your camera before the meeting.

Make sure you have the correct camera selected in your PC’s settings and that it’s working.

- \* Use appropriate lighting (no bright windows or lights behind you; light your face well, etc.)

- \* Do not use a camera angle that’s too low (e.g., many laptops on a table or desk).

No one wants to stare up your nostrils the entire time.

- \* Check your own image. Is this how you want to be seen? Is your face clear and well lighted?

- \* Wear appropriate clothes (please no pajamas, bath towels, etc.).

- \* Check the background of your image for anything you may not want others to see (junk in the corner, unmade beds, very personal items, etc.).

- \* Do not use a Zoom virtual background unless your PC can handle it.

Get a green screen if you really want a virtual background.

Turning on Zoom’s virtual background feature without a green screen often messes with your image and distracts from the meeting.

- \* Remember that, in Meetings, everyone can see you at all times.

Temporarily stop your video if you must do anything you don’t want everyone to see.

## Audio:

- \* Test your audio before the meeting.

Make sure you have the correct microphone & speakers selected in your PC settings and that they’re working.

Does your microphone sound good? Are you easily understood? If not, consider an external microphone.

- \* Keep your mic muted unless you’re speaking.

- \* Understand that if your audio is very poor, or if there are background noises, side conversations, etc.; the host may mute you.

\* Remember, you must click “Join with internet audio” to get into the meeting. You will be placed in the “Waiting Room” until the host admits you. Your audio, both your speakers and your mic, will be muted until the host admits you. Once in the meeting, your mic will remain muted until unmuted by you or the host. Unfortunately, this is a necessary security measure.



# HAM RADIO OUTLET

**MULTI-STORE BUYING POWER!**

**ICOM**



**IC-9700**  
*All Mode Tri-Band Transceiver*



**IC-7300**  
*HF Transceiver*



**IC-7100**  
*All Mode Transceiver*



**ID-5100A Deluxe**  
*VHF/UHF Dual Band Digital Transceiver*



**IC-705**  
*HF/50/144/430 MHz All Mode Transceiver*

**KENWOOD**



**TS-590SG**  
*HF/50MHz Transceiver*



**TM-D710G**  
*2M/440 Dualband*



**TM-V71A**  
*2M/440 DualBand*



**TM-281A**  
*2 Mtr Mobile*



**TH-D74A**  
*2M/220/440 HT*

**YAESU**  
*The radio*



**FT-991A**  
*HF/VHF/UHF Transceiver*



**FT-891**  
*HF+50 MHz All Mode Transceiver*



**FTM-300DR**  
*C4FM/FM 144/430 MHz Dual Band*



**FTM-400XD**  
*2M/440 Mobile*



**FT-700R**  
*C4FM/FM 144/430 Xcvt*

**5 Ways to Shop!**

- RETAIL LOCATIONS - Store hours 10:00AM - 5:30PM - Closed Sunday
- PHONE - Toll-free phone hours 9:30AM - 5:30PM
- FAX - All store locations
- ONLINE - [WWW.HAMRADIO.COM](http://WWW.HAMRADIO.COM)
- MAIL - All store locations

*HRO is family owned and operated by active hams!*

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(877) 455-8750

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SAN DIEGO, CA  
(877) 520-9623

PORTLAND, OR  
(800) 765-4267  
DENVER, CO  
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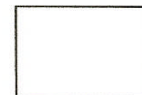
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Contact HRO for promotion details. Toll-free including Hawaii, Alaska and Canada. Call will be routed to the nearest store. All HRO 800-lines can assist you. If the first line you call is busy, you may call another. Prices, specifications and descriptions subject to change without notice.



## The Carrier

Newsletter of the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club  
P.O. Box 23222  
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523  
[www.mdarc.org](http://www.mdarc.org)



## FIRST CLASS

<https://www.facebook.com/mdarc.org>

### W6CX Nets

M-F 5:42 am Morning Muster 147.060+ 224.780- 441.325+

M-F 6:10am Commuter Net 147.060+ 224.780- 441.325+

Monday 8:00 pm SATERN Net 147.060+

Tuesday 7:30 pm Fat City 10 meter USB/CW Net 28.420 MHz

Tuesday 8:00pm Digital Practice Net 147.060+ 224.781-441.325+

Wednesday 7:00 pm SKYWARN Net 147.060+

Thursday 7:30 pm MDARC Club Net 147.060+

Thursday 8:00 pm Amateur Television Net 147.060+

FM 147.060 MHz + / PL 100Hz -

224.780 MHz - / PL 77Hz 441.325 MHz + / PL 100Hz

EchoLink: W6CX-R /133896, IRLP: 3057

<https://www.broadcastify.com/listen/feed/25334>

**D-STAR** 145.000 offset plus 2.5 MHz

<https://w6cx.dstargateway.org/>

**DATV Internet Stream:** <http://w6cxatv.mdarc.org/>

### Contra Costa County Emergency Communications Nets

Every Thursday

<http://www.coco-races.org/meetings/nets/>

6:35 pm HF Countywide 3.893 MHz LSB

6:45 pm West County 145.110-- (82.5 PL)

7:00 pm Central County 145.680 Simplex

7:00 pm East County 146.535 Simplex

7:00 pm South County 147.480 Simplex

7:20 pm Countywide 145.490-- (107.2 PL)

or 147.735-- (107.2 PL)

or 145.410-- (107.2 PL)

### Concord Auxiliary Radio Emergency Service (CARES)

Wednesday 8:00pm 147.405 Simplex

### Digital Amateur Television Repeater

Digital ATV Output: 1244.500

Digital ATV Inputs: 1292.500, 1273.0, 917.0, 430.0

Analog ATV Input: 1270.000 FM (PL 192.8)

## August 2020 and September 2020 Club Calendar

Friday August 21, 2020

7:00pm - **MEETING IS VIRTUAL ! Watch on DATV Repeater or join via zoom.us**

Saturday September 5, 2020

8:00am - MDARC Technical Committee Meeting - **VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE**

Monday September 14, 2020

7:00pm - MDARC Board of Directors Meeting - **VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE**

DATE CHANGED DUE TO LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

Friday September 18, 2020

7:00pm - MDARC General Meeting - **TO BE DETERMINED**